



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer  
Director of Health Services  
County Counsel

At its meeting held April 12, 2005, the Board took the following action:

13

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The Department of Health Services (DHS) has informed Drew University of its failure to comply with reporting requirements under the medical affiliation agreement and of its intent to impose sanctions. Drew University is more concerned with renegotiating its affiliation agreement with DHS than they are with fixing the medical school and resident oversight problems that have placed the future of King/Drew Medical Center in jeopardy.

“Given the stakes involved, and recent patient deaths involving lapses in medical care, and lack of oversight of residents by attending physicians and Drew University faculty, it has become evident that this Board can no longer support a hospital that does not meet the community standard of care.

“The Board of Supervisors has continually requested the Director of Health Services answer questions regarding Drew University’s Medical School and its capability of meeting the County’s expectations, and whether it can perform the critical functions of a medical teaching facility. This Board has not received clear direction from the Director of Health Services as to whether the County’s relationship with Drew University can be sustained.

(Continued on Page 2)

13 (Continued)

“Moreover, it is questionable whether Navigant’s interim management team is capable of turning around King/Drew Medical Center, if Drew University Medical School continues its affiliation with the hospital. It is vital that this Board make a decision on King/Drew Medical Center’s continuance of its medical affiliation agreement with Drew University, and King/Drew Medical Center should be downsized to a more manageable community hospital.”

Dr. Thomas L. Garthwaite, Director of Health Service responded to questions posed by the Board.

Lark Galloway-Gilliam representing Community Health Councils, Jim Lott, M.D., Vice President, Hospital Association Southern California, Bart Harper Williams, Esq., Dr. Patrick T. Dowling, Harry E. Douglas, III, Alejandro Mayorkas and Richard A. Veloz, Members, Board of Trustees, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Kathy Ochoa representing SEIU Local 660, and other interested persons addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Molina, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Yaroslavsky, Knabe, Antonovich and Molina; Noes: Supervisor Burke, the Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Health Services and County Counsel were directed to report back to the Board at the meeting of May 10, 2005, at 11:00 a.m., with a plan that ensures that much-needed medical services are provided consistent with community standards of care, with the plan to address the following:

1. How King/Drew Medical Center will operate if the Board terminates Drew University’s Medical School Affiliation Agreement and downsizes King/Drew Medical Center to a more manageable community hospital; and
2. Alternatives to replace Drew University with other medical schools, such as the University of Southern California, University of California, Los Angeles, and Loma Linda University, or directly employ County physicians.

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